from the Government of Andhra Pradesh has been techno-economically appraised and found acceptable;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the estimated costs thereof and length of the canal proposed to be modernised; and

(d) the sources through which the amount is likely to be mobilised ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI VIDYACHARAN SHUKLA): (a) to (d) The proposal for modernisation of Kurnool-Cuddapah Canal envisaging modernisation of main Canal in a length of 306 Km. at a estimated cost of Rs. 50 crores was received in the Central Water Commission in November, 1992. The State Government is required to submit modified proposal after working our crop water requirement scientifically and assessing the water use in terms of Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal Award. The Planning Commission has approved an outlay of Rs. 60 crores during the VIII Plan for modernisation schemes in Andhra Pradesh.

Cultivation of Kesri Dal

*133. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kesri Dal has poisonous effect on its consumers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that its cultivation has been banned in many countries; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have recently taken or propose to take to discourage its cultivation in the country?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULCULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR): (a) As per information given by the Director General of Health Services Kesri Dal contains B-N-Oxalyl-L—Aminealanine (BOAA) which is considered to be toxic chemical affecting central nervous system causing paralysis of lower limbs known as lathyrism.

(b) As per information provided to the Agriculture Ministry, France and Algeria have banned cultivation of Kesri Dal

(c) In March, 1992 Agriculture Minister had written to the Chief Ministers of Kesri growing States i.e. Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and West Bengal to ban Kesri Dal. Under Rule 44-A of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, there is a ban on the sale of Kesri Dal or its admixture with other dals.

Urban Strategy Paper on Development of Cities

*134. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government ace preparing an "Urban strategy Paper" for the development of cities during the next five years;

(b) if so, what are the thrust areas identified;

(c) what is the mode of implementing the plan; and

(d) what strategy is being finalised to arrest the migration from rural to urban areas ?

THE MINISTER FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SMT. SHEILA KAUL): (a) The Urban Development Strategy for the five year period 1992—97 has been spelt out in the Eighth Plan document. The State Governments have been asked to prepare Urban Strategy papers so as to identify the towns and cities having growth potential. These will be used for formulating appropriate policies at the national level and to direct Central Government investments in urban development.

(b) The specific thrust areas spelt out in the 8th Five Year Plan are the following:—

(i) Macro strategy for urban development to the evolved recognising